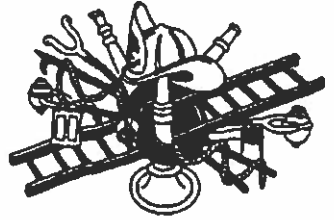




Borough of Naugatuck

Fire Department

41 Maple Street
Naugatuck, CT. 06770



Office of the Fire Marshal
Tel.# (203) 720-7080
Fax # (203) 720-1348

Fire Marshal David Hardt
Deputy Fire Marshal James Gies
Fire Inspector Edwin Dalton

Guidelines for Open Burning

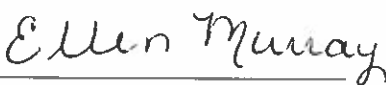
State of Connecticut Public Act # 2000-1 states "The burning of non-processed wood for campfires and bonfires is not prohibited if the burning is conducted so as not to create a nuisance and in accordance with any restrictions imposed on such burning."

The following guidelines from 2015 NFPA 1 Chapter 10 should be followed:

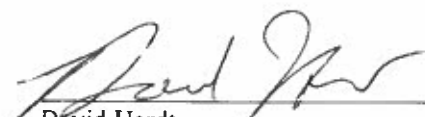
1. Outdoor fires shall not be built, ignited, or maintained in or upon any hazardous fire areas, except by permit from the Authority Having Jurisdiction (Local Burning Official).
2. The open burning of brush in an open area can only be done by permit from the Local Burning Official. All burning shall be conducted under the conditions on the permit and shall be completely extinguished by 5:00 pm. as listed on the issued permit. No fire shall be within 25 feet of any structure or fence.
3. No bonfire, defined as a large, outdoor fire, is to be allowed unless permission from the Fire Marshal's Office is obtained in writing. When permission is obtained, the fire must be located at least 50 feet away from a building and the hours of burning shall be designated by the Fire Marshal. No open burning of trash or construction material(s) is allowed.
4. Chimeneas and other types of backyard fireplaces are not regulated by the State and therefore are allowed if the fireplace has a spark arrester or screen to prevent flying brands or sparks from leaving the fireplace. The chimenea or fireplace must be burning firewood only and produce a minimum amount of smoke. The burning of trash, scrap wood or construction material(s) and cardboard is not permitted. Maintain at least 36 inches of clearance between the chimenea or fireplace and any combustible material. If nearby combustibles are warm to the touch, than they are too close.
5. A small, open campfire, located on private property that is not creating a nuisance or danger to adjacent property is permitted. The fire must be built within a manufactured fire ring, an outdoor fireplace or a concrete fire place and be located at least 25 feet away from a structure or fence. It can be uncovered only if it is being used for cooking purposes and the fire must be made from firewood or charcoal briquettes with a minimum amount of smoke and spark generation. Smoke cannot be entering any open windows of neighboring buildings.
6. A garden hose or a bucket of water large enough or other means to extinguish the fire must be in the immediate vicinity of the open fire.
7. A responsible adult shall be in control of the above fires at all times. It is the policy of the Naugatuck Fire Department to extinguish any fire where an irresponsible individual is found tending a fire or if a fire is found to be unattended. Children should be well supervised if they are in the vicinity of a burning fire and not allowed to be running around the property where they might fall into an open fire.

8. If the Naugatuck Fire Department responds to an open burning complaint, the Fire Officer will use his judgment in determining if the fire is creating a nuisance or not and not just take the word of a complainant. Neighborhood residents have been known to use this type of complaint as retaliation against a neighbor for something unrelated to the fire. For example, if upon arrival, the Fire Officer observes a cloud of smoke with or without sparks flying in the air, this would be a justified complaint and the fire should be extinguished. However, if he observes just a mild smell of burning wood in the air, then this may not justify eliminating that person's right under the above law to have an open fire provided that the above precautions are used.
9. No open burning of trash, Christmas trees or construction material(s) is allowed except for the burning of empty cardboard explosive containers at a blast site as required by the Connecticut Explosives Safety Code.
10. No open fires, except cooking fires within a grill, will be allowed if the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (D.E.E.P.) Air quality index (AQI) is predicted to be 75 or higher anywhere in the State as indicated in the table entitled "Predicted Daily AQI maximums for the month/day/year as found at www.ct.gov/deep/aqi or when the Forest Fire Danger level is HIGH, VERY HIGH, or EXTREME, as found at www.ct.gov/deep/forestfiredanger.
11. Unauthorized fires that involve the burning of trash, brush or other debris or are reckless and threaten other properties may result in the issue of a summons from the Naugatuck Police Department to the responsible party. Criminal charges of Reckless Endangerment (CGS 53a-63 -1st degree or 53a-64 2nd degree) or Reckless Burning (CGS 53a-114) or Burning without permit (CGS 23-48) or when fire danger is high to extreme (23-49a) could also be brought against the responsible party if the situation warrants it.
12. All fires shall be attended at all times.
13. No permits shall be issued for land clearing.
14. Burning permits shall be available at all times at the burning site.
15. The permit does not relieve the permittee of any legal liability which may be incurred as a result of the fire.

Organizations such as the American Legion or VFW, Boy or Girl Scouts, Royal Rangers, or other fraternal and religious groups should notify the Naugatuck Fire Department (203-720-7083) before they have any type of ceremonial open fire.


Ellen Murray
Fire Chief

5-7-20
Date


David Hardt
Fire Marshal

5-7-20
Date